

MORGAN COUNTY (UTAH). COMMISSION ^[659] MINUTES, 1862#

DESCRIPTION: These minute books record the actions of the county commission, the governing body of the county. The commission was authorized to manage all county business and property. This includes budgeting, equipment purchasing, and auditing; use of county lands; districting for schools, roads, voting, drainage, etc.; taxing, specifically acting as an ex-officio board of equalization; business licensing; arranging for the construction of roads, public buildings, etc.; contracting for services; supervising the conduct and payment of all county personnel; providing for basic health care, public safety, and care of the indigent; canvassing the election returns and appointing certain officials; incorporating municipalities; and by the 1960s, zoning and planning. All these activities are noted in the minutes. The day's entries are prefaced by the date, names of those present, and where and when they met. Attachments to the minutes, such as election returns, correspondence, proposals, etc. are included.

The commission was authorized to manage all county business and county property. This included auditing all claims against the county and payments by the treasurer. Bids received, and bills and wages paid in conjunction with the activities are noted. By the 1950s, annual budgets are regularly recorded. The commission levied property taxes for county purposes and could call for bond elections. The members served as a board of equalization for county property assessments.

Responsibilities noted in the minutes include supervision of the conduct of all county, district, and precinct officials, boards, and agencies. Personnel actions are recorded, by individual name, for county employees from janitor to sheriff. Such actions include appointments, hourly or salaried wage increases, requests for funds to attend conferences, and resignations. Requisition and bid proposals for supplies and equipment are similarly detailed.

The commission created election precincts. Commissioners served as canvassers of elections also appointing election officers, setting the boundaries of voting districts, and assigning

polling places. The commission also created road districts, school districts, and sanitary districts and appointed superintendents of such districts. Laying out roads and providing for their maintenance was a major activity noted in the minutes. The airport also became a regular topic after 1957.

The commission was responsible for public health and safety and care of the indigent. Care of the indigent increases noticeably as a topic in the 1930s. In conjunction with neighboring counties, the commission also provided for health care, waste disposal, fire control, flood control, and detention services. The commission provided for recreation in the county, including a library, fairground, playgrounds, TV towers, and a county historical society.

The legislature mandated that business licenses be obtained from the county commission. Where the county had a more direct interest, more details are recorded as in the case of franchises for telephone, electricity, or pipelines. A major addition to commission functions was made in 1941 when the commission was empowered to provide for the development and zoning of unincorporated areas of the county. Entries regarding the zoning of subdivisions begin in 1962 with the appointment of a planning board and a building inspector. Entries become more frequent in the 1970s and 1980s with discussion of building and zoning code enforcement.

ARRANGEMENT: The series is arranged chronologically by date of meeting.

RESEARCH NOTE: Retakes are common at various places in the film, particularly at the beginning. The entire 1915#1933 volume is repeated at the end of the first reel. In 1983, the clerk shifted from re-typing all the information in bound volumes and went to retaining the original material in loose leaf books. Material from 2 May 1983 to 11 July 1983 may be present in both formats.

RELATED RECORDS: While the minute books summarize the meetings of the commission, many other county agencies recorded the particulars. Thus the other holdings of the county commission and other Morgan county agencies should be consulted.

PROCESSING NOTE: The Morgan County Clerk as secretary for the Morgan County Commission should be contacted for paper copy holdings. Filming was done in 1986 by the Morgan County Historical Society. The series was processed by A.C. Cone in April 1996.

GAPS IN THE SERIES: The first reel of film begins on page 528 of the 1903#1907 volume. Earlier material presumably still is held by the county as is material after 1986.

CONTAINER LIST

Reel	Description
1	1903, 13 Apr#1907, 4 Mar (p. 528#end); 1907, 12 Mar#1914, 25 Dec; 1915, 4 Jan#1933, 1 May
2	1933, 1 Jun#1946, 20 Dec
3	Index, 1947#1967; 1947, 6 Jan#1967, 3 Jan; Index, 1967#1983; 1967, 3 Jan#1973, 16 Oct
4	1973, 5 Nov#1983, 19 Apr (cont.); 1983, 2 May#1983, 11 July; Index to Book 1
5	1983, 4 Jan#1983, 6 Jun (Book 1)
6	1983, 1 Aug#1983, 20 Dec (Book 1, cont.)
7	Index to Book 2; 1984, 3 Jan#1984, 15 May (Book 2); 1984, 4 Jun#1984, 17 Jul (Book 3)
8	1984, 17 Jul#1984, 18 Dec (Book 3, cont.); Index to Books 3 and 4; 1985, Jan 7#1985, 18 Jun (Book 4)
9	1985, Jun 18#1986, 25 Mar (Book 4, cont.); 1986, 7 Apr#1986, 12 Aug
10	1986, 12 Aug#1986, 9 Sep (cont.); 1986, 16 Sep#1986, 21 Oct